

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

The Friday Letter

Reserve March 23, 1979

*9HV696
F6U51*

This Week

In announcing our food program results yesterday, Assistant Secretary Foreman said that preliminary estimates show an increase in food stamp program participation. She also announced that workers who quit their jobs will be barred from the food stamp program. The President's anti-inflation program is discussed in an article by Steve Hemstra. Secretary Bergland plans to appoint a Human Nutrition Advisory Committee. A scientific study to improve the quality of school lunches is explained in a news feature. An FNS Training Board has been established. You'll find the details of these and other matters of interest to you on page:

- 2 Food Program Results for January 1979
- 2 Workers Who Quit Jobs to be Barred from Food Stamp Program
- 3 Management Information and Analysis Report
- 5 USDA Applies Science Toward Improving School Lunch
- 5 Deadline for Comments on Proposed Regulations
- 5 The President's Anti-Inflation Program
- 6 Human Nutrition Advisory Committee
- 6 FNS Training Board Established
- 7 Director of Financial Monitoring and Reporting Division Named
- 7 Children's Art Judges Named
- 8 Speaking and Travel Schedule for the Secretary,
Assistant Secretary, and FNS Officials
- 9 Food Marketing Alert
- 9 Your Retirement System
- 9 News Releases and Feature Issued This Week
- 9 Milestones - FNS Publications
- 10 Status of Current Legislation Relating to FNS
- 11 Schedule of Congressional Hearings
- 13 Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation
- 13 Food Distribution Division
- 15 Nutrition and Technical Services Division
- 17 School Programs Division
- 17 Child Care and Summer Programs Division
- 18 Supplemental Food Programs Division
- 19 Family Nutrition Programs
- 20 Job Opportunities

(The Editor of the Friday Letter is Alma Holland.)
(Typing of this issue was done by Dreama Blackwell.)

Food Program Results for January 1979

(By Leslie Wilder)

Preliminary estimates show that 17.8 million people participated in the food stamp program in January, an increase of 1.7 million people over the previous month, Assistant Secretary Foreman said yesterday.

The larger than seasonal increase represents low income people who were able to participate for the first time due to implementation of a provision of the 1977 Food Stamp Act, which ended the requirement that families put up lump sums of cash to buy their food stamps.

"States are required to convert their entire caseloads to the new, more restrictive eligibility rules between March 1 and July 1," Foreman said. "We expect States to remove up to one million people -- those participants with the highest incomes -- from the program during this period."

"The Department predicted when the 1977 bill was enacted that three to four million new people would enter the program," Foreman said. "This is now occurring." She said the increase was occurring at a faster pace than expected.

Foreman also said January growth rates were much more rapid in rural areas than in big cities. Historically, rural areas had lower participation rates. "Also, informal reports suggest a significant number of elderly poor are entering the program," Foreman said.

Preliminary estimates for participation in all of our food assistance programs for January are included on pages 3 and 4 of this Friday Letter. As usual, they are printed in a handy form so that you can clip them out of this Letter, and put them into a pocket calendar -- so you'll always be equipped with the latest results information.

Workers Who Quit Jobs to be Barred
from Food Stamp Program

(By Marilyn Stackhouse)

Primary wage earners who quit their jobs and then apply for food stamps will have their households barred from the food stamp program for two months under a new food stamp rule, Assistant Secretary Foreman announced this week.

Under the work registration requirements for food stamps, all able-bodied, unemployed household members between 18 and 60 must register for work and accept any offer of suitable employment.

If a food stamp participant who is registered for work fails to accept or continue an offer of suitable employment, the entire household is automatically disqualified from the program. The new rule expands this provision to disqualify households whose primary wage earner quits a job and then applies for food stamps.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS REPORT

(Data is preliminary as of March 15, 1979)

	<u>Jan. 1978</u>	<u>Dec. 1978</u>	<u>Jan. 1979</u>
FOOD STAMP PROGRAM:			
Projects	3,037	3,038	3,038
Participation (millions of people) . . .	16.4	16.1	17.8
Bonus coupons (millions of dollars). . .	\$ 433.2	\$ 454.1	\$ 540.5
Average bonus per person	\$ 26.48	\$ 28.23	\$ 30.40
Total value of coupons (millions). . . .	\$ 693.6	\$ 657.1	\$ 540.5
COST OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED (millions) TOTAL:			
Needy Family Program (million)	<u>1/\$</u> 72.9	<u>1/\$</u> 78.0	<u>1/\$</u> 77.1
Supplemental Food Program (million). . .	\$ 1.3	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.0
Nutrition Program for Elderly (million).	\$ 1.3	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.7
Schools (million).	\$ 1.9	<u>1/\$</u> 10.6	\$ 1.0
Institutions (million)	<u>1/\$</u> 63.0	\$ 62.0	<u>1/\$</u> 67.3
Child Care Food Program (million). . . .	\$ 1.5	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.0
	<u>1/\$</u> 3.9	\$ 0.04	<u>1/\$</u> 4.1
NEEDY FAMILY PROGRAM:			
Projects	43	45	45
Participation (thousands).	95.5	119.4	122.6
COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM:			
Projects	43	36	29
Participation (thousands).	102.3	89.4	99.8
SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM (WIC):			
State Agencies	69	72	72
Participation (thousands).	1,095.3	1,369.3	1,408.1
Federal Cost (millions).	\$ 29.7	\$ 40.9	\$ 43.2

1/ Includes cash in lieu of commodities.

Page 2, FNS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS REPORT, as of March 15, 1979

(Data is preliminary as of March 15, 1979)

	<u>Jan. 1978</u>	<u>Dec. 1978</u>	<u>Jan. 1979</u>
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM:			
Participants (millions)	26.5	26.9	26.5
Child Rchd with f/rp lunch (millions)	11.7	11.6	11.5
Avg. nmbr lnchs srvd daily (millions)	24.1	24.6	24.2
Percent free.	38.9	36.5	37.2
Percent reduced price	5.7	6.1	6.2
Federal cash reimbursement (millions)	\$ 180.9	\$ 157.6	\$ 214.6
SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM:			
Participants (millions)	2.7	3.3	3.1
Avg nmbr brkfstsr srvd daily (millions).	2.4	3.1	2.8
Percent free/reduced price.	86.0	83.8	83.9
Federal cash reimbursement (millions)	\$ 16.9	\$ 16.2	\$ 21.7
CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM:			
Outlets	22,796	26,100	25,800
Participation (thousands)	540.8	604.6	596.3
Federal Cash reimbursement (millions)	\$ 11.2	\$ 11.7	\$ 13.5
SPECIAL MILK:			
Half-pints (millions)	196.5	155.9	177.8
Percent free of total	20.2	13.6	12.5
Federal cash reimbursement (millions)	\$ 13.8	\$ 11.2	\$ 12.7

USDA Applies Science Toward Improving School Lunch

(By Marilyn Stackhouse)

"USDA Applies Science Toward Improving School Lunch" is a news feature released this week. It's about a study FNS is conducting to improve the quality of school lunches.

The feature tells how Anita Eng of the Quincy, Massachusetts, field office collected data for the study in four schools in three Massachusetts towns. These schools are among the 380 throughout the nation selected to participate in the study.

A report of the data from all 380 schools is being compiled and will be published this summer.

Deadline for Comments on Proposed Regulations

Next Tuesday, March 27 is the deadline for comments on proposed regulations that would help more schools serve breakfast.

The President's Anti-Inflation Program

Inflation has been the matter of prime concern in Washington this week. The President met with his advisors at Camp David, Alfred Kahn sat into the Secretary's press conference Wednesday afternoon, and Howard Hjort has a news briefing this afternoon on the food cost component of the Consumer Price Index.

In this climate of concern, Steve Hiemstra has given us a valuable interpretation of how the wage and price standards apply to schools. Steve is now Chief of the Food, Agriculture and Trade Division of the Council on Wage and Price Stability in the Executive Office of the President. In his article, he draws both on the insights he's gained there -- and his wide acquaintance with food economics and the structure of our programs.

The President's anti-inflation program, he points out, applies to schools as it does to government agencies at all levels -- both to the wages paid to employees, and the prices charged for meals. His overview explains the price standard, the gross margin standards, the profit margin limitation, and the wage standard. And he's included two backgrounders -- one on "The Pay/Price Standards and State and Local Governments" and another on "Pay and Price Standards; A Guide for Small Business."

Because we know you're getting lots of questions, and because we all want to do all we can to help the President fight this tough fight, we're sending copies of the information Steve has given us to all Regional Offices.

Human Nutrition Advisory Committee

Secretary Bergland plans to appoint a Human Nutrition Advisory Committee to help the Department develop nutrition policies and programs.

Congress designated the Department as lead federal agency for human nutrition, with a mandate to human nutrition research and nutrition education. To help carry out this mandate, the Department has developed a Human Nutrition Policy Committee with responsibility for coordinating Departmental activities in human nutrition.

The 20-member advisory committee will include four representatives from each of the following categories: consumers, beneficiaries of Department food assistance and/or nutrition education programs, State and local food assistance programs, and the agricultural industry. There also will be four scientists from the food and nutrition sector. Committee members will be appointed for 1-year terms.

Persons wishing to submit nominations for the committee should send names and resumes of nominees to the Coordinator for Human Nutrition Policy, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 419-A Administration Building, Washington, D.C. 20250. April 2 is the deadline for receiving nominations.

FNS Training Board Established

(By Jeraline Barnes)

The FNS Training Board was established on February 27, 1979. The purpose of the Training Board is to provide top management support and involvement in planning, coordinating, and evaluating FNS' comprehensive training and development program.

The major responsibilities of the Training Board are to:

1. Provide the general policies and parameters of the Agencywide training program; and
2. Review identified training needs and establish priorities based on current and projected mission requirements.

The Board consists of seven members, three of whom hold continuing memberships -- the Chairperson; Director, Office of Civil Rights and EEO; and Director, Personnel Division. In order to assure top management involvement in training decisions from all major programs, one Deputy Administrator and three GS-15 managers, selected by the other three Deputy Administrators, will serve on the Board on an annual basis.

Training Board Composition for 1979 is:

Barbara J. Coleman, Associate Administrator, Chairperson
 Vernon R. Morgan, Director, Personnel Division
 Herbert A. Scurlock, Director, Office of Civil Rights and EEO
 Nancy Snyder, Deputy Administrator for Family Nutrition Programs
 Neill W. Freeman, Jr., Assistant to the Deputy Administrator for
 Special Nutrition Programs
 Robert C. Peake, Director, Program Analysis Staff, Regional Operations
 Leo A. Demers, Assistant Deputy Administrator for Financial Management
 Jeraline Barnes, Employee Development Specialist, Personnel Division,
 Executive Secretary

Suggestions and comments on training matters may be discussed with any Training Board member or put in writing to Jeraline Barnes, Executive Secretary, FNS Training Board, Personnel Division, Room 704. Board decisions on major training issues will be announced in the Friday Letter.

Director of Financial Monitoring
and Reporting Division Named

(By Carolyn Collins)

Ray Pugh, Deputy Administrator for Financial Management, has selected David L. Hamer, Jr., for the position of Director, Financial Monitoring and Reporting Division. Mr. Hamer is transferring from the Treasury Department, Bureau of Government Financial Operations, where he holds a GS-15 position as Assistant Director of the Division of Check Claims. He was responsible for directing the activities of over 200 employees in support functions dealing with the financial adjudication of claims against government-issued checks. He has had nearly 12 years' experience with the Treasury Department in operating, staff, and systems accounting functions. Mr. Hamer is a native Washingtonian and received a BA degree in Accounting from Howard University and a MBA degree in Management from George Washington University. He is also an active member of several professional associations.

Children's Art Judges Named

(By Winifred Scheffler)

The following five judges have been named by their respective Division Directors to select winners in the International Year of the Child art contest for children of Washington area Food and Nutrition Service employees:

Family Nutrition - Joyce Wallace
Special Nutrition - Herbert Rorex
Financial Management - Carol A. McLaughlin
Regional Operations - Janie Manley
Administrator's Office - Chris Van Lenten

Instructions for participating have been distributed to all Divisions. Pictures must be submitted by March 30. The work of agency winners will be displayed in the Patio and entered in the Department-wide contest.

In addition to the fun of participating and showing their work, all children who submit entries will receive a blue and white button with the IYC symbol. FNS winners will all receive prizes. The Department-wide winner will receive a \$25 savings bond.

In another observance of IYC, the Food and Nutrition Service has printed special stationery with an IYC logo (thanks to an idea submitted by Bob Dean, NTS Director in the Midwest Region). This letterhead bond and manifold is now available for use in place of regular stock until the supply is exhausted.

Speaking and Travel Schedule for the Secretary,
Assistant Secretary, and FNS Officials

BERGLAND

Secretary

Mar 27 79	Washington, DC	American Agricultural Editors' Association
Mar 29 79	Salt Lake City, UT	Public Meeting on Irrigated Agriculture
Apr 3 79	Washington, DC	Florida Farm Bureau
Apr 9 79	Washington, DC	Women National Democratic Club
Apr 24 79	Washington, DC	Newspaper Farm Editors of America
Apr 26-27 79	Puerto Rico	Tour - Economic Development Areas
May 13-14 79	Boston, MA	World Food Policy Seminar, Harvard Business School

FOREMAN

Assistant Secretary

Mar 26-27 79	Burlington, VT	George D. Aiken Lecture Series
Mar 28 79	Silver Spring, MD	FSQS Annual EEO Evaluation Conference
Apr 3 79	Baltimore, MD	American Society for Public Administration
Apr 23 79	Washington, DC	Newspaper Farm Editors of America
Apr 24 79	New York City, NY	Spring Session of the Research and Development Associates Meeting
May 2 79	New York City, NY	Walter Bagehot Fellowship Program, Columbia University
May 3 79	Philadelphia, PA	Monelle Chemical Senses Center
May 3-4 79	New York City, NY	Nutrition Conference, Teachers College
May 9 79	Beltsville, MD	4th Symposium in Agricultural Research
May 11 79	Boston, MA	Society of Government Economists and Eastern Economic Association
May 13-14 79	Boston, MA	World Food Policy Seminar, Harvard Business School
May 15 79	New York City, NY	National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators
Jun 11 79	Milwaukee, WI	National PTA Convention

FNS OFFICIALS

Mar 24-28 79	Washington, DC	Margaret Glavin. National Association of Elementary School Principals, Annual Convention
Mar 27-28 79	Asheville, NC	Gene Dickey. North Carolina School Food Service Workshop
Mar 28 79	MO	Orval Kerchner. Missouri Food Procurement Workshop
Mar 29 79	Dallas, TX	Orval Kerchner. School Food Service Seminar
Apr 5-6 79	Nashville, TN	Herbert Scurlock and Herbert Mangrum. Agricultural Outreach Seminar, Tennessee State University
Apr 9-11 79	Hershey, PA	Neill Freeman. Food Procurement Workshop

Food Marketing Alert

Potatoes and dry beans will continue to be in very heavy supply during April and the Agricultural Marketing Service is informing consumers that this is a good time to buy and use more of these popular staples. Other foods expected to be plentiful are broiler-fryers, peanuts, rice, corn and dry split peas.

Your Retirement System

The Federal Retirement System will be the subject of a forum for professionals of the Federal Service in Masur Auditorium at the Clinical Center of the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, March 30.

Four specialists will present their views and information concerning current, critical issues facing the Civil Service Retirement System.

News Releases and Feature Issued This Week

March 19 - Feature: USDA Applies Science Toward Improving School Lunch

March 22 - Workers Who Quit Jobs to be Barred from Food Stamp Program

March 22 - Preliminary Summary of Food Program Results for January 1979

Milestones - FNS Publications

(By Matilda Oden)

March 19, PA-1198, How WIC Helps - Eating for You and Your Baby: Received from printer.

March 20, FNS-187, Tips for Wholesalers (English and Spanish): Received from printer.

March 21, PA-1226, How to Apply for and Use Food Stamps: Received from printer.

March 22, WIC's Guide for Retailers: Information clearance.

STATUS OF CURRENT LEGISLATION RELATING TO FNS - MARCH 23, 1979

BILL NUMBER	BRIEF TITLE/PROVISIONS	STATUS
S. 1	<u>FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ACT OF 1979</u> (Directs Secy. of Ag. to conduct study of food stamp program - reduce error rate - more effective monitoring and control of food coupon redemption and more timely investigation and resolution of suspected fraud; repeals authorization ceiling; or "cap" in the food stamp program)	Action not yet scheduled.
S. 292	<u>REDUCE FY 80 WIC AUTHORIZATION</u> (From \$800 million to \$750 million)	3/7/79 ordered favorably reported by Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Comm.
S. 632	<u>AMEND THE FOOD STAMP ACT OF 1977</u> (Eliminate certain restrictions on excess shelter expense deductions with respect to households which are composed entirely of persons who are age 65 or older or who are recipients of benefits under title XVI of the Social Security Act)	Action not yet scheduled.
S. 605	<u>FOOD AND NUTRITION OPTIONAL CONSOLIDATION AND REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1979</u> (Permits the States to consolidate and reorganize certain food programs administered by the Department of Agriculture for the benefit of needy persons)	Action not yet scheduled.
S. Res. 90	<u>REQUESTS SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO STUDY PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED UNDER THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT AND CHILD NUTRITION ACT OF 1966</u>	Action not yet scheduled
H.R. 27	<u>AMEND NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT AND CHILD NUTRITION ACT OF 1966</u>	Action not yet scheduled. Hearings expected some time in March.
H.R. 2126	<u>AMEND THE FOOD STAMP ACT OF 1977</u> (Eliminate certain restrictions on excess shelter expense deductions with respect to households which are composed entirely of persons who are age 65 or older or who are recipients of benefits under Title XVI of the Social Security Act.)	Action not yet scheduled.
H.R. 2412	<u>AMEND THE FOOD STAMP ACT OF 1977</u> (Remove "cap")	Action not yet scheduled.

Rita Keating

March 23, 1979

SCHEDULE OF CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

DATE	TIME	PLACE	HOUSE/SENATE COMMITTEE OR SUBCOMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESS
<u>Tuesday</u> <u>Apr. 3</u>	<u>TENTATIVE</u> 10:00 a.m.	210 CHOB	House Budget	Markup of Federal Budget	
	<u>TENTATIVE</u> 10:00 a.m.	6202 DSOB	Senate Budget	Markup of Federal Budget	

Rita Keating

MARTIN WILLIAMS RETIRES



During a retirement reception for Martin Williams (right), Al Mootz, Chief of the Minneapolis ADP Field Center, presents him with a certificate honoring his 27 years of service.

CFC DRIVE A SUCCESS



The beaming faces of Regional Administrator Billy Wood (left) and Combined Federal Campaign Chairman Jerry Stankorb are indication enough of the success of this year's CFC drive in the Mountain Plains Region. Stankorb received a special citation for his efforts and Mountain Plains Regional Office employees were given an award for their generous contributions.

OFFICE OF POLICY, PLANNING AND EVALUATION

David M. de Ferranti
Director

Food Distribution Program for Indian Tribal Groups

A working group within FNS has developed and is implementing a plan to provide training and technical assistance to Indian tribal groups who are operating a food distribution program. On March 16, a Request for Qualifications was announced to solicit firms who would be interested in providing training or technical assistance. Responses to the Request for Qualifications will be screened to develop qualified bidders which Regional Offices can use for small training and technical assistance contracts.

SPECIAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Gene Dickey
Deputy Administrator

FOOD DISTRIBUTION DIVISION

Darrel E. Gray
Director

State Administrative Expense Funds

On March 13, Assistant Secretary Foreman testified before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Education and Labor.

At that time she discussed the 1980 FNS budget and the administration's proposed amendments to the Child Nutrition Legislation. Among other things discussed, Foreman recommended that "some State administrative expense funds be made available for specific use by States to carry out the distributing agent responsibilities." The intent of this and other administrative decisions is to ensure that all agencies that administer the child nutrition programs, including food distribution activities, share in the allocation of State administrative expense funds. Foreman believes that this and other actions will improve the administration of the Food Distribution Program.

New Branch Chief

We are pleased to announce the selection of Ed Kemp as the new Program Operations and Assistance Branch Chief. Mr. Kemp will assume his new duties on Monday, March 26. Prior to this assignment, Mr. Kemp served for approximately three years as the WIC Director at the Michigan Department of Public Health. (By B. Wright)

USDA Foods are Complimented

Food Distribution Division received the following message from the Department of Defense Overseas School Lunch Program in Europe regarding USDA donated foods.

"Dear Mr. Eskin"

"Recent receipts of breaded cooked frozen chicken and cooked turkey rolls for the European school lunch program were of an outstanding quality.

"Would it be possible for you to inform us as to the vendor and prices as we would like to purchase these items for our snack bars and cafeterias.

"Thank you very much."

We have complied with the DOD request for vendor and price information.

Canned Pineapple - SY 1980

Regions have been requested to submit quantities of canned pineapple based on an allocation percentage. Requested shipment is from July through September in 2-week shipping periods. This is the first fruit item to be offered for the new school year.

Surveys - Frozen Diced Beef and Soy-Based Infant Formula

We are conducting surveys to solicit States' views on frozen diced beef (i.e. stew beef in approximately 1-inch cubes) for use in schools. In addition, Commodity Supplemental Food Program sites will be responding to our request for quantities of soy-based infant formula they could use in addition to the milk-based formula presently being distributed.

Egg Mix for Breakfast Programs

Regions have been asked to submit States' needs for egg mix for breakfast programs for SY 1980 covering the entire school year. Historically, purchases are made after Easter.

Needy Family and Commodity Supplemental Food Programs - 4th Quarter Estimates

Submission of 4th quarter estimates for needy family and commodity supplemental food programs are due in Washington by April 20. For the first time, CSF programs will have the opportunity to order a variety of canned vegetables and canned juices. In addition, breakfast programs (first quarter SY 1980) and Title III programs will be able to order from a selection of three canned juices.

NUTRITION AND TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Audrey Maretzki
Director

Nutrition Education and Training Program -
FY '79 State Plans

We trust you have received all Nutrition Education and Training Program State Plans from your States. We have received 27 State Plans from the Regional Offices. However, only 10 Regional Office reviews have been forwarded. Remember, we have only 60 days from the date you receive the Plan to take action on it. Plans will not be approved until we receive your comments.

Coalition Conference

Martha Poolton represented NTSD at the National School Breakfast Coalition Conference convened by the Children's Foundation and held on March 15-16. Carol Tucker Foreman, Assistant Secretary for Food and Consumer Services, participated on a panel on "School Breakfast: National and Local Perspectives" during the opening session on Thursday morning. The keynote speaker for the luncheon was Dr. Frederick C. Green, M.D., Commissioner, International Year of the Child, and Associate Director, Children's Hospital, National Medical Center. Martha participated in workshop sessions on School Food Quality, Nutrition Education and New Strategies for 1979, and appreciated the opportunity to serve as an FNS liaison at this worthwhile meeting.

Pennsylvania School Foodservice Directors' Meeting

On Tuesday, March 20th Vic Canevello was guest speaker at the quarterly meeting of the Pennsylvania School Foodservice Directors' Association in Monroeville, Pennsylvania. In attendance were 50 people representing 45 school districts and the Pennsylvania State Agency.

Using color slides and viewgraphs especially selected and prepared for the occasion, Vic made presentations on relatively new concepts in volume food preparation and proven methods of increasing participation in secondary schools.

Visit to Science and Education Administration Nutrition Institute

Six members of the staff visited the Nutrition Institute in Beltsville on Thursday to discuss current research being conducted there and to tour the laboratory facilities. Dr. Walter Mertz, Chairman of the Institute, and his staff met with us and reviewed the work being done which could have implications for FNS, especially that on the effects of sugar, fat and salt consumption.

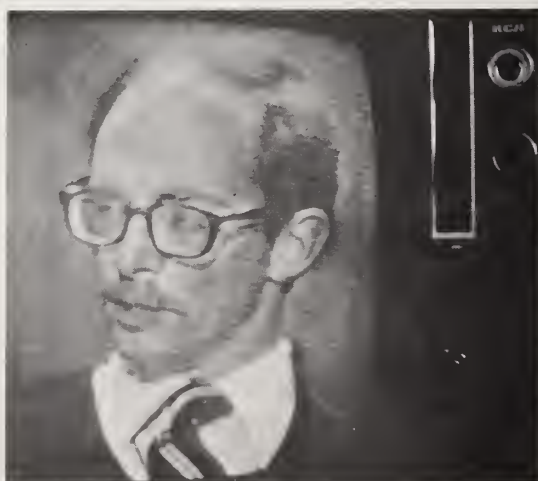
BARNSTORMING FOR THE SUMMER PROGRAM

Members of the Western Regional Office (WRO) information and child nutrition staffs have concluded two week-long whistlestop tours of the most rural areas in Washington and Oregon. The idea was to meet with local community action agency representatives and other potential summer program sponsors who could serve as catalysts in getting programs started in their rural communities.

Nearly 90 representatives of community groups and half a dozen north-west Indian tribes attended the nine meetings sponsored by the WRO and the Hunger Action Center, a Seattle-based advocacy group.



Typical of the series of small, informal meetings was the one in Longview, Washington. The almost 20 attendees were keenly interested in how they might secure the benefits of the summer food service program for the children in their rural communities.



The rural media was eager to provide air time to Regional program people visiting their towns to talk about the summer program. Russ Miller of Special Nutrition Programs in the Western Region is interviewed live during an afternoon talk show in Spokane, Washington.

Tino Serrano

SCHOOL PROGRAMS DIVISIONMargaret Glavin
DirectorReimbursement for Alaska, Hawaii and Outlying Areas

We have been receiving a number of inquiries concerning adjusted reimbursement rates for Alaska, Hawaii and the outlying areas. P.L. 95-627 allows the Secretary to adjust the national average payment factor to reflect differences in the cost of providing school food service in these areas.

At present, FNS' Policy, Planning and Evaluation Staff and the Department's Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service are researching these cost differences. When this research is complete, a final decision will be made by the Secretary on the feasibility and extent of implementing this legislative provision. We will relay this decision to you as soon as it is made.

(By Steve Boruchowitz)

(Typed by Romaine Owens)

CHILD CARE AND SUMMER PROGRAMS DIVISIONJordan Benderly
DirectorAdditional Guidance Materials

Limited numbers of Food Service Handbooks and State Agency Guidance were sent to the Regional Offices on Monday, March 19. We are sorry that it will be impossible for us to send additional copies. Regional Offices are advised to contact Mary Lou Wheeler at FTS 447-9072, if copies of these materials are not received within a reasonable time-frame.

Reprint of Summer Materials

Each Regional Office has been contacted and asked for an update on their current stock of 1979 Summer Food Service Program for Children publications. The development of a comprehensive picture of total needs for additional materials will be the key factor in determining which publications need to be reprinted. We will be in contact shortly regarding whether all requests can be filled and if not, what we can do to help your offices and the State agencies.

Jim Britton Convalescing

Jim Britton (Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch) has been ill since January 11. Jim is presently at home recovering after several weeks in the intensive-care unit of the Peninsula General Hospital in Salisbury, Maryland, and the University Hospital in Baltimore. He wishes to thank everyone for their cards, gifts, and thoughts. We hope Jim will be back with us soon.

(Typed by Twanda Rodgers)

SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAMS DIVISIONJennifer Nelson
DirectorWIC Final Regulations

Public response to the January 9, 1979 publication of WIC proposed rules was encouragingly high. Over 670 comment letters were analyzed. The following chart shows from whom those letters were received:

Interest Groups	-- 59
Local Agencies	-- 355
State Agencies	-- 123
Government Organizations	-- 11
General Public	-- 73
Participants	-- 49
Congressional Offices	-- 2

Please note that we did not receive comments from 123 different State agencies, since there are only 73. However, 123 persons from the State agencies sent in their comments.

Commenters expressed most concern in the following areas, listed in the order of the regulations: State staffing standards; State Plan requirements; almost all certification sections; nutrition education; and food instruments, requirement for brand names on the instruments. Commenters, in smaller numbers, discussed almost every other paragraph in the regulations as well.

The comments and analysis have demonstrated a need for a thorough review of the issues contained in the regulations. Work is progressing on the comment analysis, redrafting regulations, and drafting a final impact statement. Publication is expected in April. (Prepared by Lynda Couvillion)

FAMILY NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Nancy M. Snyder
Deputy Administrator

U.S. Savings Bond Campaign

April is traditionally Savings Bond month and this year the agency's campaign chairman is Joe Shepherd, Assistant Deputy Administrator of Family Nutrition Programs. Joe invited all available Washington staff to attend the 1979 campaign kick-off which was held in the Jefferson Auditorium today.

FNS has always ranked high in the Department and we hope to maintain our good record by increasing participation this year. Joe will be in contact with the canvassers next week and they, in turn, will be talking to each staff member about the advantages of purchasing bonds. Bonds help to preserve our future. Let's pitch in and do our part. (Trish Warner)

FNP Regional Directors Meeting in Atlanta

The Family Nutrition Programs Regional Directors met in Atlanta, Georgia, this week to discuss food stamp regulations, legislation, budgeting and planning issues. Attending the meeting from FNP Washington were:

Nancy Snyder, Deputy Administrator
Family Nutrition Programs
Tony Smith, Director
Performance Reporting Division
Maurice Tracy, Chairperson
Performance Reporting System Taskforce

Among the specific items discussed were-- Implementation monitoring, use of sanctions during and after the conversion period, waivers, Performance Reporting System, financial management reorganization, Indian regulations, lawsuits, demonstration projects, special studies, budget and status or remaining regulations to be issued. (Bill Tlucek)

Reevaluation of Authorized Firms

The Minneapolis Field Center (MFC) is proceeding with the mailing of the carbon pack retailer/wholesaler application form to authorized firms throughout the country. Information from the returned completed forms will enable us to reevaluate all the eligibility of these firms to continue participating in the Program under the provisions of the Food Stamp Act of 1977. Thus far, MFC has completed mailings to firms in four Regions - Mountain Plains, New England, Southwest, and Western. They are currently processing applications for the Southeast Region and will begin mailings for the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest Regions as soon as the Southeast mailing has been completed. (Anne Sherriff)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

FNS Personnel Offices are making active efforts to fill the following vacant positions. To be considered for an announced position, candidates must submit an up-to-date SF-171, Personal Qualifications Statement, and current performance appraisal to the appropriate personnel office. If you are interested in a listed position in a Regional Office, apply to the Regional Office. If you are interested in a listed position in Washington, apply to the Employment Branch, Personnel Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Please note vacancy announcement numbers have been included in this listing for your information. However, this is a vacancy summary and not an official vacancy announcement. Official vacancy announcements are available on designated bulletin boards at the appropriate Regional or Headquarters Office or by contacting the issuing office.

NUMBER OF VACANCIES	POSITION AND GRADE	NUMBER AND CLOSING DATE	LOCATION OF POSITION
------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------------	-------------------------

WASHINGTON, D.C.

1	Clerk Steno	GS-312-5	OPEN UNTIL FILLED	PP&E
1	Food Program Specialist	GS-120-12	79-31 4 03 79	SPD
1	Clerk Stenography	GS-312-5	79-33 4 02 79	PP&E
1	Food Program Specialist	GS-120-7/9	79-34 4 09 79	SPD
1	Program Analyst	GS-345-13	79-35 4 09 79	PP&E
1	Secretary Stenographer	GS-318-7	79-36 4 09 79	FNP
1	Secretary Typing	GS-318-5	79-37 4 09 79	SPD
1	Secretary Stenography (Detail - NTE: 60 Days)	GS-318-9	79-38 3 30 79	OA
1	Clerk Typist	GS-322-3/4	OPEN UNTIL FILLED	FN
1	Food Program Specialist	GS-120-12	79-44 4 16 79	SFPD
1	Supervisory Economist	GS-110-15	79-40 4 16 79	PP&E
1	Economist	GS-110-14	79-41 4 16 79	PP&E
1	Program Analyst	GS-345-13	79-42 4 16 79	PP&E
1	Economist	GS-110-12	79-43 4 16 79	PP&E

.....

Secretary Steno/Secretary Typing	GS-318-5	79-7	OPEN UNTIL FILLED
Clerk Typist	GS-322-3/4	79-7	OPEN UNTIL FILLED

TOTAL OF 6 POSITIONS - THIS IS A TEMPORARY INTERMITTENT POSITION. INCUMBENT WILL WORK FULL-TIME DURING PEAK PERIOD WORK LEVELS, AND WHEN THERE IS SPECIAL NEED.

.....

NUMBER OF VACANCIES	POSITION AND GRADE	NUMBER AND CLOSING DATE	LOCATION OF POSITION
------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------------	-------------------------

MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

1 Accountant (Promotion Potential to GS-11)	GS-510-9/11	MW 79-6 4 02 79	SN
1 Statistician (Promotion Potential to GS-11)	GS-1530-9/11	MW 79-7 4 02 79	FN

WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

1 Food Program Specialist (Assistant State Program Manager)	GS-120-9/11	W 79-36 4 02 79	FN
--	-------------	-----------------	----

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL OFFICE

1 Management Analyst (May be filled at the GS-7 level)	GS-343-7/9	79-4 3 28 79	SN
---	------------	--------------	----

Prepared and Typed by: Karen D. Sinclair

